

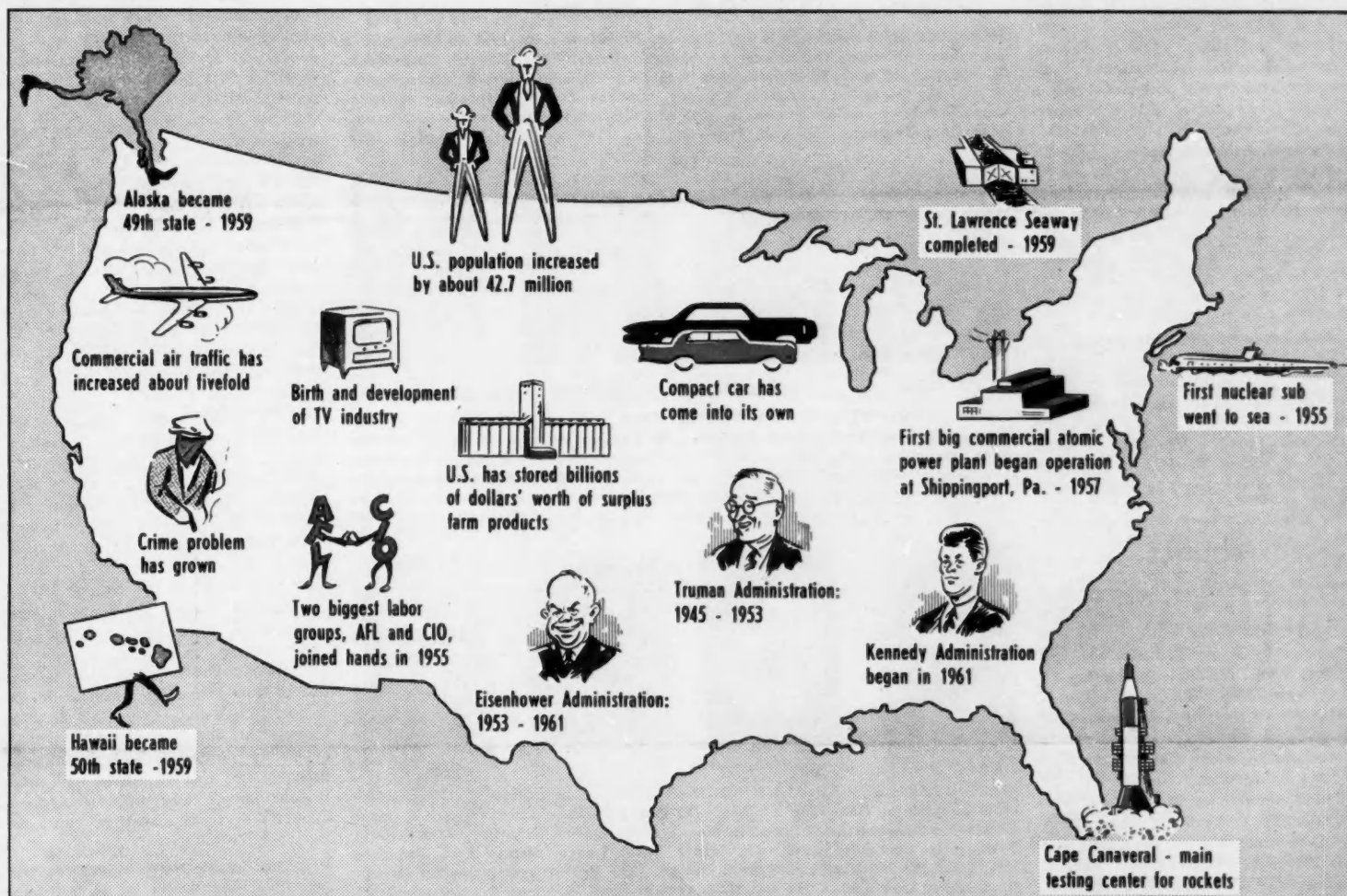
AMERICAN OBSERVER

News and Issues—With Pros and Cons

VOLUME 30, NUMBER 33

WASHINGTON, D. C.

MAY 15, 1961



DRAWN FOR AMERICAN OBSERVER BY JOHNSON

Looking Back on Sixteen Eventful Years

A Review of the National Scene During Period Since World War II

Following is the first of 2 articles that summarize major happenings since World War II. This week we deal primarily with events inside the United States. Next week: the international scene. These reviews will prove helpful to students for examination purposes, and for a clearer understanding of today's issues and problems. (To provide space for the special roundups, we omit certain features that ordinarily appear.)

THE 16 years since World War II have seen swift developments, dramatic changes. America and Russia, within this period, took the first steps in space exploration. Commercial jet air travel and atomic-electric power plants became realities. The television industry has risen, in the lifetimes of today's high school students, to a position of tremendous influence.

U. S. population has grown rapidly, and 2 new states have joined the federal Union. Production and earnings are far higher in this nation today than in the mid-1940's. Our people have faced tough problems—political, social and economic. Yet, for the

average American family, there has been substantial improvement in living standards.

BIGGER POPULATION

Present population of the 50 states and the District of Columbia is about 183,200,000. In 1945, the same areas had approximately 140,500,000. Thus there has been a 30% increase.

Because it provides an expanding market for goods and services, population growth helps to keep America prosperous. But, at the same time, serious problems are created. There are big difficulties in meeting the need for additional schools, hospitals and clinics, highways, recreation facilities, and so on.

In general, the Pacific and Rocky Mountain regions are gaining much faster than other parts of America. The 1950-60 population increase for these areas was about twice as great as for the entire country.

Another important trend: speedy growth of the big cities (especially their suburban sections) along with a decline in farm population. Farmers and their families made up 8.7% of our nation's inhabitants last year, as against 18% in 1945.

Crime rates. In terms of percentages, says the Federal Bureau of Investigation, major crimes increased about 4 times as rapidly as did population during the 1950's. Part of this rise almost certainly was due to growing congestion in and around big cities.

NEW STATES

In 1959, Alaska became our 49th state and Hawaii became the 50th. With these additions, the first since 1912, area covered by our federal Union reached a total of 3,615,210 square miles.

Earlier—in 1952—Puerto Rico had been made a "commonwealth." As

such, the island is practically self-governing in local matters.

GOVERNMENT

Atomic agency. A 5-man Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) was established by Congress in 1946 to supervise production of nuclear weapons and harnessing of the atom for peacetime purposes. Previously, atomic development was in Army hands. Present AEC Chairman is Dr. Glenn Seaborg.

Defense Department, headed by a Cabinet-rank Secretary, was created by stages in the late 1940's to replace the War and Navy Departments. Its 3 major branches—for Army, Navy, and Air Force—are today called "departments," but their chiefs are not full-fledged Cabinet officers.

Secretary Robert McNamara heads the Defense Department as a whole.

Welfare group. A Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (HEW)—headed by a Cabinet-rank Secretary—was created in 1953. Its tasks include running the social security system. This department grew from an organization known as the Federal Security Agency, whose chief

(Continued on page 2)

OTHER
FEATURES

Page 5—Firsthand Report from West Germany
Page 6—Main Article on South Viet Nam
Page 7—Letters from Our Readers
Page 8—Story of the Week

An Eventful Era

(Continued from page 1)

did not hold full Cabinet rank. Present Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare is Abraham Ribicoff.

President Kennedy seeks another Cabinet agency—a Department of Urban Affairs and Housing. If created, it will be built around the present Housing and Home Finance Agency.

Sky explorers. A National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) was formed in 1958 to supervise non-military space projects.

Federal Aviation Agency (FAA), created by a 1958 act of Congress, replaced certain other governmental units in the fields of air safety and traffic control. (An older group, the Civil Aeronautics Board, regulates airlines in such matters as passenger fares; and it shares responsibility with FAA in the safety field.)

Two amendments have been added to our Constitution during the postwar period. The 22nd, adopted in 1951, provides that "no person shall be elected to the office of the President more than twice." The 23rd, adopted this year, allows District of Columbia residents to take part in Presidential elections.

POLITICS

President Franklin Roosevelt died on April 12, 1945, a few months before the end of the global conflict. He was succeeded by Harry Truman, who had become Vice President on January 20 of the same year. There were Democratic majorities in both houses of Congress at that time.

National elections since World War II have resulted as follows:

1946: Republican Congress.

1948: Mr. Truman and Alben Barkley, Democrats, elected President and Vice President. Democratic Congress. Losing GOP Presidential candidate: Thomas Dewey.

1950: Democratic Congress.

1952: Dwight Eisenhower and Richard Nixon, Republicans, chosen President and Vice President. GOP Congress.

1954: Democratic Congress.

1956: Re-election of Mr. Eisenhower and Mr. Nixon. Democratic Congress. Unsuccessful Democratic Presidential candidate in 1952 and 1956: Adlai Stevenson.

1958: Democratic Congress.

1960: John Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson, Democrats, chosen President and Vice President. Democratic Congress. Defeated GOP Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates: Richard Nixon and Henry Cabot Lodge.

Present Speaker, or chairman, of the U. S. House of Representatives is Sam Rayburn of Texas—a Democrat. He has held this position during all periods of Democratic control in Congress since 1940. Joseph Martin, Jr., of Massachusetts—a Republican—has been Speaker during postwar periods of GOP control.

SUPREME COURT

America's highest judicial body received much criticism during the 1950's. Among other things, the 9 justices were accused of making decisions which gave the federal government too much power at the expense of our states. Defenders of the Court insisted that its rulings were in line with the Constitution.



(1) Truman



(2) Eisenhower



(3) Kennedy



(4) Barkley

HISTORY MAKERS: (1) Harry Truman, President from 1945 to 1953, now a prominent elder spokesman for Democratic Party. (2) Dwight Eisenhower, World War II hero, President from 1953 to 1961, now a leading figure in the Republican Party. (3) John F. Kennedy, now the President, formerly a Democratic senator from Massachusetts. (4) Alben Barkley, who was Democratic senator from Kentucky and Vice President from 1949 to 1953. He died in 1956.



(1) Nixon



(2) Johnson



(3) Dewey



(4) Stevenson

(1) **RICHARD NIXON**, Vice President from 1953 to 1961 and loser to Mr. Kennedy in 1960 Presidential election. (2) **Lyndon Johnson** of Texas, the new Vice President. (3) **Thomas Dewey**, a former New York governor; losing Presidential GOP contender in 1944 and 1948. (4) **Adlai Stevenson**, a former Illinois governor; unsuccessful Democratic Presidential candidate in 1952 and 1956; now U. S. Ambassador at United Nations headquarters in New York.



(1) Thurmond



(2) Wallace



(3) Lodge



(4) Taft

(1) **SENATOR STROM THURMOND** of South Carolina, Presidential candidate as "States Rights Democrat" in 1948. (2) **Henry Wallace**, Cabinet member under Presidents Roosevelt and Truman; Vice President, 1949-1953; Progressive Party Presidential contender, 1948. (3) **Henry Cabot Lodge**, former Ambassador to UN; loser in 1960 Vice Presidential contest. (4) **Robert Taft**, powerful Republican leader from Ohio. He was U. S. senator from 1939 until his death in 1953.

Head of the Supreme Court at the close of World War II was Chief Justice Harlan F. Stone of New York. Mr. Stone died in 1946, and President Truman named Fred M. Vinson of Kentucky to replace him. After Mr. Vinson's death in 1953, President Eisenhower appointed the present Chief Justice—Earl Warren of California.

DEFENSE

Manpower. Rapid demobilization after World War II cut the size of our armed forces from 12,300,000 men and women in 1945 to about 1,500,000 in 1947. The Korean War, which began in 1950, required a speedy build-up—to about 3,670,000 in 1952. This conflict ended in 1953, and military manpower declined. The soldiers, airmen, sailors, and marines now in active U. S. service total approximately 2,500,000.

The World War II Selective Service program ended early in 1947. Because of continuing global strife, though, Congress enacted a peacetime draft law in 1948. Draft measures of one kind or another have been in effect ever since.

Weapons. They have undergone big changes since World War II. Very few jet planes, which are now the standard type of combat aircraft, were used in that conflict.

Our nation tested the world's first atomic bomb on July 16, 1945—and

a still more powerful weapon, the hydrogen bomb, in 1952.

America's first atom-powered submarine—the *Nautilus*—went to sea 6 years ago. Early this month there were 17 such vessels in actual service with the Navy, including 5 that can fire 1,200-mile Polaris rockets while submerged. The Navy has a number of other atomic submarines, as well as 3 nuclear-powered surface vessels, in various stages of construction and testing.

Certain kinds of rockets were used by each side in World War II, but they did not approach the range and effectiveness of combat-ready missiles now possessed by both America and Russia.

In Congress and elsewhere there has been continuing controversy on whether our country is developing military forces of sufficient strength—and of the best possible types—to meet growing threats posed by the Soviet Union, Red China, and their satellites. President Kennedy seeks a build-up of long-range rocket power, and of the ground forces needed for hit-and-run warfare.

U. S. FOREIGN POLICY

Serious foreign problems—such as those that involve Laos, Cuba, and the Congo—have often overshadowed events here at home during the time since World War II, and they have exerted great influence on the U. S.

political scene. Major global crises will be discussed in next week's international roundup article, together with such topics as overseas aid.

Trade and gold. U. S. trade with other countries has grown rapidly since World War II. During nearly all the postwar period, this nation's exports—or foreign sales—have been considerably greater than its imports—or purchases. Last year, for example, our earnings from sales of goods and services abroad amounted to about 27.1 billion dollars; outlays for purchases were 23.3 billion.

These figures, though, don't tell the whole story. When you total a number of items—such as U. S. payments for foreign products, the amounts spent by American tourists abroad, American investments in other lands, our foreign aid outlays, and our payments for maintenance of U. S. troops overseas—you find that we spend much more outside our borders than the rest of the world spends in the United States. In recent times, the difference has amounted to 3 or 4 billion dollars a year.

As a result, certain nations have acquired big surpluses of U. S. dollars. Instead of using all their dollar supply to purchase American goods, they have exchanged part of it for our gold. So U. S. gold reserves have dwindled. They have declined by 5½ billion dollars' worth—to a present total of about 17.4 billion—since the end of 1957.

In recent months, the rapid outflow appears to have been checked (at least for the time being) because of an improvement in our trade situation, and because of certain measures taken in late 1960 and early 1961 by the Eisenhower and Kennedy Administrations. If the improvement is not permanent, the United States will need to consider a number of actions to reduce its overseas spending, boost its earnings, or both.

According to some observers, one desirable step would be to put new restrictions on U. S. imports. Besides helping to block the gold outflow, it is argued, such curbs would protect American labor and industry against competition from foreigners whose wage standards are lower than ours. Other Americans say that we should—in the interests of world prosperity and peace—encourage foreign sales in the United States and make more vigorous efforts to sell our own products abroad.

Immigration. Hundreds of thousands of refugees—mainly European—have entered America since the mid-1940's. Those who came soon after World War II were people who had been made homeless in that conflict. Later, we received many from behind the Iron Curtain. Thousands of Hungarians came here after their country's unsuccessful 1956 revolt against Soviet domination.

Congress has sometimes enacted special emergency legislation—temporary in nature—for admission of refugees. Our basic immigration law at present, though, is the "Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952," more commonly known as the "McCarran-Walter Act." Its provisions continue in effect unless Congress changes them.

Peace Corps. Recruitment of this U. S. volunteer organization—which will consist of men and women ranging in age from 18 upward, and whose members will serve without pay in underdeveloped nations—is now beginning. President Kennedy has an-

nounced that one of the first Peace Corps groups will help build roads in the African land of Tanganyika.

SCIENCE & EDUCATION

America took part in the International Geophysical Year (IGY), which extended from July 1957 through December 1958. During this period, scientists from nearly all countries worked together on intensive studies of the earth, sun, and space.

Launching of U. S. and Soviet earth satellites was begun during the IGY. Russia sent the first of these into orbit on October 4, 1957.

By May 1—two weeks ago—the United States had put 39 satellites into orbit around the earth, and 2 around the sun. Russia had launched 11 satellites of the earth alone, another that circled the earth and moon, 1 which went into orbit around the sun, 1 rocket that hit the moon, and another that traveled in the general direction of the planet Venus—a total of 15 vehicles, so far as is publicly known. Last month, one of Russia's earth satellites reportedly carried a man into orbit for the first time. (For a story on U. S. astronaut see page 8.)

In general, Soviet space vehicles have carried much heavier "payloads"—or cargoes of instruments—than ours; but many scientists believe that America's satellites have done a better job than Russia's in gathering information from beyond the atmosphere.

Schools in spotlight. With the Soviet Union challenging U. S. world leadership in science and technology, much attention has been focused on our nation's need for training more and more scientists and engineers. Also, it is pointed out, we must help young citizens acquire better understanding of public problems.

In 1958, Congress passed an education measure calling for Uncle Sam to furnish nearly a billion dollars over a 7-year period. Among other things, it provides loans for numerous college students. President Kennedy wants to extend and enlarge this program.

Also, he seeks large-scale federal aid to help states and communities build new schools and pay teachers' salaries. See March 13 AMERICAN OBSERVER for pros and cons.

Though people are divided over the question of federal financial aid, there is general agreement that our swift population growth has put a big burden on schools throughout the country. Public elementary and high schools now have about 37,244,000 pupils, compared to 23,300,000 in 1946.

SPENDING & TAXES

Annual outlays by the U. S. government have ranged from a low of 33 billion dollars (for the year ending June 30, 1948) to an estimated post-war high of 80.7 billion dollars (for the present year).

Defense accounts for approximately half of all federal outlays, and taxes on individual incomes provide more than half of Uncle Sam's revenue.

National debt, which was 269.5 billion dollars in 1946, now stands at 288 billion.

State and local government expenses have risen rapidly. The states, for example, spent a total of 31.6 billion dollars last year, compared to 7.1 billion in 1946.

PRODUCTION & INCOME

Our nation produced 56% more goods and services last year than in

1946. Even so, there is widespread belief that output should—in one way or another—be boosted even faster. Among other things, it is said, we need to provide additional jobs for America's growing population. Size of our civilian labor force has risen from 57,520,000 in 1946 to about 71,000,000 at present.

Unemployment rates have risen and fallen a number of times since World War II, but the general trend has been upward. As an average in 1946 we had 2,270,000 unemployed, as against about 5,000,000 now.

The average U. S. income per person (after payment of taxes) in 1946 was \$1,136. By last year it had risen about 73%, to an estimated \$1,969. However, living costs rose nearly 52% during the same period, and thus price increases swallowed much of our gain.

Stock market. Prices of stocks—representing shares of ownership in business corporations—have climbed very rapidly in the postwar years. Despite some setbacks, the general movement has been sharply upward. This has induced many new buyers to enter the market. A 1952 survey showed 6,490,000 U. S. stockholders, and by last year it was estimated that the number had doubled.

POWER & RESOURCES

America is using natural resources at an increasing rate. Water supply, for example, is becoming a bigger and

bigger problem in many areas. U. S. consumption of petroleum products rose 80% between 1947 and last year. By the end of the 1950's we were using about 2½ times as much electricity as in 1945.

Nuclear energy. This nation's first commercial atomic-electric plants—a large one at Shippingport, Pennsylvania, near Pittsburgh, and 2 smaller stations in California—began operating in 1957. Since then, big installations in Illinois and Massachusetts have started production. Other commercial plants of varying sizes are being built.

Sea trials of the world's first nuclear-powered merchant ship—America's *N. S. Savannah*—are scheduled to begin soon.

Offshore oil. In 1953, Congress gave up federal claims to some rich undersea petroleum deposits near the U. S. coast line. The states were thus to gain undisputed title to the "submerged" oil fields within their seaward boundaries. Later, though, there were some lengthy disagreements as to how far from shore these boundaries lie.

St. Lawrence Seaway. A joint U. S.-Canadian enterprise to deepen channels from the Atlantic Ocean into the Great Lakes was begun in 1954. The new Seaway was opened to large ocean vessels in April 1959. This project involved construction of huge dams, which furnish hydroelectric power in great quantities.

River development. Work continues on the harnessing of America's rivers for many purposes, including irrigation, navigation, and output of electric power.

Some of the undertakings—such as huge Glen Canyon Dam on the Colorado River, in Arizona—are being handled by our federal government. In other cases, state and local agencies are in charge. Still other projects—one along Hells Canyon in the Pacific Northwest, for example—are in private hands.

COMMUNICATION

An entire new industry—television—has arisen since World War II. In a 1947 article, this newspaper commented that the United States had a total of 9 TV stations and only a few thousand home receivers. By the end of last year there were 579 stations, serving around 56,000,000 receiving sets.

The airlines industry, also, has grown with amazing speed. Commercial planes in the United States handled about 5 times as much passenger traffic last year as in 1946.

Jet-prop airliners (whose propellers are run by jet turbines instead of pistons) were introduced in this country 6 years ago, and the much faster propellerless jets began commercial service on U. S. lines in 1958.

Television and the airplane, along with other means of communication and travel, bring the different sections of America closer together.

FARMING

As former President Eisenhower once commented, "there has been more change in agriculture within the lifetimes of men now living than in the previous 2,000 years." Main result: Farmers can produce bigger crops with less work. In fact, they now pile up great surpluses, despite U. S. government attempts to control output. During much of the period since World War II, the surpluses have tended to hold farm prices down.

In seeking to deal with this problem, the federal government has taken action along several fronts. In the first place, it has acquired and stored surplus items in order to keep them off the regular market. Uncle Sam now has about 9.2 billion dollars invested in such products. Wheat accounts for more than a third of the total.

In addition, the government has sought to curb output through a variety of acreage-reduction plans. In some cases it has paid farmers to withdraw some of their land voluntarily from surplus production. In other cases there have been compulsory limits on acreage—put into effect if approved by two-thirds of the farmers who raise the items involved.

In an effort to protect agricultural incomes, the government supports—or guarantees—the prices of certain major farm commodities. It guarantees that the producer will receive a certain percent of parity for his crop. Parity represents a price level that is said to give farmers a fair income in comparison with their living costs. It goes up and down as farmers' expenses rise and fall.

There is general agreement that the nation needs to find better ways of handling its farm problems. President Kennedy's recommendations on the subject were discussed, pro and con, in this paper 2 weeks ago.

(Continued on page 4)



(1) Mansfield



(2) Dirksen



(3) McClellan



(4) Kefauver

(1) SENATOR "MIKE" MANSFIELD of Montana, Democratic majority leader in Senate. (2) Everett Dirksen of Illinois, Senate Republican leader since 1959. (3) John McClellan, Arkansas Democrat, head of special Senate committee that investigated racketeering in labor and industry. (4) Senator Estes Kefauver of Tennessee, who twice sought the Democratic Presidential nomination, and was losing Vice Presidential candidate in 1956—when Mr. Nixon won his second term.



(1) Rayburn



(2) McCormack



(3) Martin



(4) Halleck

(1) SAM RAYBURN of Texas, Speaker of the House in all Democratically controlled Congresses since 1940. (2) John McCormack of Massachusetts, leader of Democratic majority in the House. (3) Joseph Martin of Massachusetts, former GOP leader in House and Speaker during 2 Republican-controlled Congresses. (4) Charles Halleck, Republican of Indiana, who replaced the veteran Mr. Martin as GOP leader of the House early in 1959 during a reorganization of the party.



(1) Stone



(2) Vinson



(3) Warren



(4) MacArthur

(1) CHIEF JUSTICE Harlan F. Stone of New York headed U. S. Supreme Court from 1941 to 1946. (2) Fred M. Vinson of Kentucky was the next Chief Justice, serving until 1953. (3) Earl Warren of California now heads the Court. (4) General Douglas MacArthur, a U. S. World War II hero, and leader of UN forces in Korea, 1950-1951. He was center of dispute in 1951 when President Truman removed him from command. The 2 men disagreed over war policies.

An Eventful Era

(Continued from page 3)

Living conditions on the farm have undergone a striking change since World War II. For example, only 54% of the nation's farms were receiving commercial electric power in 1946, whereas 97% were receiving it last year.

LABOR & INDUSTRY

The year 1946 was a period of unrest. The United States was shifting from a wartime to a peacetime economy. Problems growing out of this change led to labor-management conflicts. Work stoppages in practically every big American industry eventually resulted.

Taft-Hartley. Over President Truman's veto, lawmakers passed the "Labor-Management Relations Act of 1947," generally known as the "Taft-Hartley Act." This measure put a number of restrictions on unions. It has, for the most part, been opposed by labor leaders and favored by businessmen.

One of the major Taft-Hartley provisions was a ban on the *closed shop*—a system under which employers agree to employ only union members.

The *union shop*—an arrangement under which new employees must join the union within a certain length of time after being hired—is not forbidden by the Taft-Hartley Act. However, it is banned by so-called "right-to-work" laws in more than a third of our states. In defense of these laws, it is said that no person should be denied the right to work because he doesn't belong to a union. Critics reply that, if a majority of workers in a plant belong to a union, a minority should not be able to stand aside and still benefit from the efforts of the organized workers.

Merger. A big news event of 1955 was the merger of our nation's 2 largest labor groups—the American Federation of Labor (AFL) and the Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO). The combined AFL-CIO, headed by George Meany, has approximately 13,000,000 members.

Racketeering in labor and industry. Early in 1957, a congressional committee headed by Senator John McClellan of Arkansas began probing the influence of racketeers on unions and employers. Largely as a result of this committee's disclosures, the powerful Brotherhood of Teamsters—a union that includes truck drivers and other transport workers—was expelled from the AFL-CIO in 1957.

Responsible union officials say that a relatively small minority of the nation's unions are racket-infested, and that steps are being taken to clean up the situation. They also argue that certain unscrupulous employers, as well as dishonest labor leaders, are to blame for existing abuses.

In 1959, Congress enacted a law (the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act) which—according to its supporters—helps to curb racketeering. Critics think that some of its provisions hamper the activities of law-abiding unions.

Price fixing. Early this year, officials of several major electrical equipment

companies received short jail sentences for making secret deals to eliminate price competition among their firms—in violation of federal antitrust laws—when bidding for big contracts.

This price-fixing case has led to demands, both by government officials and by business leaders, that our nation's industries take steps to put "their houses in order." Men such as Henry Ford II, of Ford Motor Company, point out that wrongdoing by a handful of firms can seriously damage the reputation of American business in general.

"Automation." This comparatively new word refers to a major trend in American industry. Defined as simply as possible, it means the use of ma-

chines to run and regulate other machines. Automation cuts down on the number of workers needed for certain types of factory and office jobs, but it creates a heavy demand for skilled technicians—especially in electronics.

states had maintained separate schools for white and Negro pupils. After the decision, certain states immediately began to *integrate*—or merge—their white and Negro school systems. Others bitterly denounced the Court, and are resisting the desegregation decree.

Meanwhile, racial disputes have cropped up in many places besides schools. An example: the "sit-in" demonstrations that are aimed at persuading lunch-counter operators to provide service for Negroes.

Voting. In 1957, Congress passed a law to prohibit all persons—including state and local officials—from interfering with anyone's voting rights. The U. S. Attorney General can seek

WELFARE

Social security. The social security retirement program which was established in the 1930's has been expanded on various occasions, so that it now covers nearly all "gainfully employed" Americans. Employers and workers make regular contributions into a fund that eventually provides retirement benefits for the workers and their dependents.

A bill approved by the House of Representatives about a month ago will, if finally enacted, increase the benefits in various ways. It will also require larger contributions from workers and employers.

President Kennedy says that a health-insurance program for the aged should be added to the social security program, but this plan is meeting strong opposition.

Housing, just after World War II, was often mentioned as America's "No. 1 problem." Servicemen—returning to civilian life—were eager to establish homes of their own, and there weren't enough houses and apartments to go around.

Millions of dwellings have been built since that time, and the housing situation has greatly improved. Even so, numerous families still live in crowded and unhealthful surroundings.

The federal government has helped many veterans and other people to obtain loans for home-building purposes. In addition, it gives the local communities financial help on slum-clearance, and on the construction and operation of housing projects for low-income families. Big disputes have arisen over President Kennedy's request for a general expansion of these federal programs.

Health. Leading causes of death in the United States are (1) diseases of the heart and blood vessels, and (2) cancer. Doctors and medical scientists are making progress toward bringing these illnesses under control, but much remains to be done. Modern drugs, meanwhile, have substantially reduced the death tolls of certain diseases such as tuberculosis and pneumonia.

Ray-producing substances known as *radioisotopes*, which our atomic laboratories turn out in great quantities, have become extremely valuable as tools for medical research and treatment.

Dr. Jonas Salk's anti-polio vaccine, pronounced effective in 1955, has been administered with success to millions of children and young adults.

Privately operated health-insurance programs have grown rapidly since World War II. By 1960, these were giving some degree of protection to nearly 128,000,000 Americans—who, by paying regular fees, received coverage for at least part of their medical expenses. As mentioned in the section dealing with social security, there has been much controversy over proposals to create a *public* health-insurance system of one kind or another.

LOYALTY ISSUE

Postwar struggles with Russia soon led to grave concern about activities of communists in America. Loyalty became an important political issue. During President Truman's Administration, the GOP insisted that Democrats were far too soft toward com-



(1) McNamara



(2) Rusk



(3) Dillon



(4) Rockefeller

(1) ROBERT McNAMARA, former president of Ford Motor Co., now Secretary of Defense. (2) Dean Rusk, President Kennedy's Secretary of State. (3) C. Douglas Dillon, Secretary of the Treasury; was Under Secretary of State in Eisenhower Administration. (4) Nelson Rockefeller, Governor of New York, our most heavily populated state. A leader in the Republican Party, he is frequently mentioned as a possible candidate for the party's Presidential nomination in 1964.



(1) McCarthy



(2) Hiss



(3) Oppenheimer



(4) Von Braun

(1) SENATOR JOSEPH MCCARTHY, Wisconsin Republican, who charged that communists influenced the Truman and Eisenhower Administrations. (2) Alger Hiss, who served prison term, 1951-1954, for perjury in connection with Red probe. (3) Scientist Robert Oppenheimer. Dispute arose when he was called a "security risk" and dropped, in 1953, as an Atomic Energy Commission adviser. (4) Wernher von Braun, German-born scientist, now a U. S. expert on rockets.



(1) Meany



(2) Reuther



(3) Hoffa



(4) Salk

(1) GEORGE MEANY, president of the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations. (2) Another prominent labor chief, Walter Reuther, head of United Automobile Workers and a vice-president of AFL-CIO. (3) James Hoffa—leader of Teamsters Union, which was expelled from AFL-CIO because of racketeering charges. (4) Dr. Jonas Salk who developed a vaccine that was pronounced effective against polio, a dreaded disease, in 1955.

chines to run and regulate other machines. Automation cuts down on the number of workers needed for certain types of factory and office jobs, but it creates a heavy demand for skilled technicians—especially in electronics.

CIVIL RIGHTS

Segregation. On May 17, 1954, the U. S. Supreme Court unanimously declared that the Constitution prohibits racial segregation in public schools. Until then, more than a third of the

federal court action against alleged violators. A 1960 law gave the courts additional powers for enforcement of the 1957 act.

Both measures are intended to protect voting rights of Negroes and members of other minorities who, in some cases, have been barred from the polls. Opponents contend that civil rights problems should be left in state and local hands. Supporters say that the federal government has responsibilities in this field, along with the communities and states.

munists at home and abroad. It was charged that many Reds had worked their way into key government posts.

Democrats replied that Mr. Truman and his aides had: (1) set up a loyalty program to weed subversives out of the government, (2) prosecuted U. S. Communist Party bosses in court, and (3) assumed leadership in the free world's struggle against international communism.

Senator Joseph McCarthy of Wisconsin (who died in 1957) was prominent among Republicans who charged that there were numerous Reds in the government under President Truman. Later, he launched similar attacks against the Eisenhower Administration, thus causing a quarrel within his own party. Senator McCarthy's opponents insisted that his accusations were false and reckless, while friends viewed him as an outstanding fighter against communism.

IN CONCLUSION

For America, the period since World War II has been a time of expansion and growth—with respect to population, production, and earnings. We in the United States have raised our material living standards to heights never before equaled in the history of mankind.

A number of people feel, however, that we are devoting too much attention to luxury and amusement—at a time when Russia is strenuously seeking to overtake us in military and industrial power and to destroy our influence in world affairs.

This is one reason why such widespread approval greeted the statement in Mr. Kennedy's inaugural speech: "Ask not what your country can do for you—ask what you can do for your country." It is also a reason why many observers have felt that Mr. Kennedy should follow up this appeal with a more specific call for sacrifices in the national interest.

—By TOM MYER

A Few Highlights Year by Year

1945: Roosevelt died; Truman President. First atom bomb test. World War II ended.

1946: Much industrial strife. Congress established Atomic Energy Commission.

1947: Taft-Hartley Act passed.

1948: Truman elected to full term.

1949: Eleven top U. S. Reds convicted of advocating violent overthrow of the government.

1950: Manpower and industry mobilized for Korean War.

1951: 22nd Amendment (prohibits 3rd Presidential term).

1952: Eisenhower elected President.

1953: Health, Education, and Welfare Department established.

1954: Supreme Court ruled against segregation.

1955: Atomic submarine *Nautilus* went to sea. AFL and CIO merged. Salk vaccine success announced.

1956: Eisenhower re-elected.

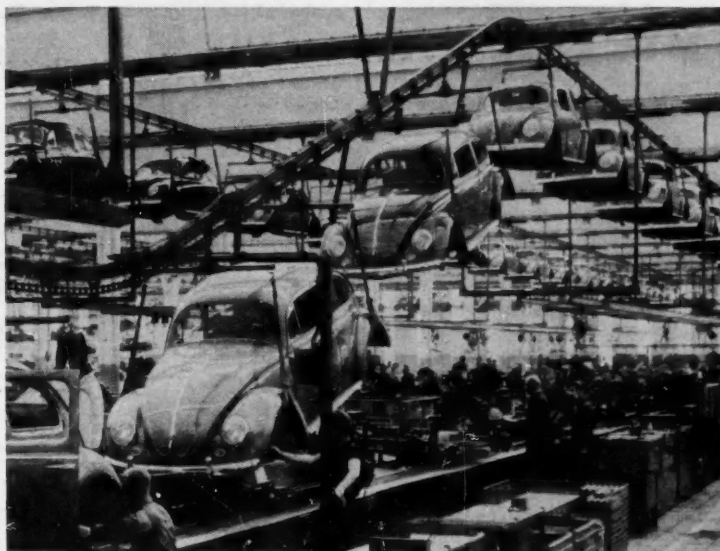
1957: Soviet Sputnik I launched. First U. S. commercial atomic-electric plants opened.

1958: National Aeronautics and Space Administration established.

1959: Alaska and Hawaii became states. St. Lawrence Seaway opened.

1960: Kennedy elected President.

1961: 23rd Amendment (Presidential vote for D.C.).



ASSEMBLY LINE for Volkswagen cars made in West Germany. This sturdy little car is sold in the United States and many other countries.

Firsthand Report

From West Germany

DURING April, I was fortunate enough to be among 60 magazine and newspaper writers who made a one-week tour of Western Germany. We were guests of the Volkswagen Automobile Company, which has its main assembly plant in the West German city of Wolfsburg.

Our group of journalists boarded a jet airliner at New York's Idlewild Airport on the night of Tuesday, April 18. Our destination was the German port city, Hamburg. The shortest route between New York and Hamburg takes the passenger over Newfoundland, southern Greenland, and northern Scotland. Flying time is 7½ hours.

Hamburg time is 5 hours ahead of Eastern Standard. Therefore, it was not until early Wednesday afternoon that our plane set down at the end of a smooth journey. During most of our flight we were at a height of nearly 6 miles.

At Hamburg, we boarded a bus for a 4-hour trip to Wolfsburg. A city of about 60,000, Wolfsburg was only a small village before the Second World War. Expansion of the Volkswagen Company has provided employment for more and more people, thus enabling Wolfsburg to become a modern, prosperous city.

Modern Assembly Plant

A large majority of the men, and many of the working women as well, are employed in the huge Volkswagen assembly plant. This building is a mile in length and several hundred yards wide. Every day, 4,000 new cars come off the assembly lines here. The ones that are headed for overseas distribution are loaded on railroad cars right at the factory. From there they go by rail to shipping points.

Wolfsburg is one of the cleanest cities I have ever seen. Slums are nonexistent. In fact, I saw very few substandard homes wherever we traveled in West Germany. One reason for this is the fact that many German cities were either wrecked or destroyed during World War II, and much rebuilding has had to be done. In addition, though, the German people seem to take great pride in keeping their homes and cities clean and attractive.

While apartments and houses in urban areas are mostly modern, those in country villages are often 200 or 300 years old. In Wolfsburg, there is a church which dates back to the 12th century.

Wolfsburg, incidentally, is only 5 miles from East Germany. Until recently, a large castle outside the city was used as a temporary haven for refugees fleeing from behind the Iron Curtain. The refugees are still coming, but they are now housed in other quarters.

Barbed-Wire Frontier

The frontier between East and West Germany is a grim sight. Barbed wire runs along the entire border. There is no grass for several hundred yards on the communist side. The barren land is neatly plowed in order to reveal the footprints of anyone trying to make an escape to freedom. East German guards patrol the border at intervals of a quarter of a mile or so.

After 2 pleasant days in Wolfsburg, our group left by bus for Wiesbaden—a city on the Rhine River some 200 miles to the southwest. On the way, we spotted some occasional reminders of World War II days. A few pillboxes and fortified bunkers, as well as an occasional bombed-out building, could be seen along the roadway.

At Wiesbaden, we boarded a steamboat for a seven-hour journey down the Rhine River to Bonn. The scenery on this trip is magnificent. On both sides of the Rhine, classic medieval castles, perched atop steep hills, overlook pleasant villages.

At the West German capital of Bonn, we paid a visit to the ultra-modern Reichstag (Parliament) building. Unfortunately, this legislative body was not in session at the time. From Bonn, we headed north again to Hamburg. After a day of sightseeing in this city of nearly 2,000,000, we made the return trip by jet airliner to New York City.

—By TIM COSS

References

- "Trouble Next Door," *Newsweek*, April 3. Situation in Viet Nam.
 "South Viet Nam: Richer Prize," *Time*, April 14.

SMILES

Teacher: Why are you late this morning?

Student: I overslept.

Teacher: Oh, do you sleep at home too?

★

A young man being examined for a position was asked: What is the distance of the earth from the sun?

His answer: I am unable to state accurately, but I don't believe the sun is near enough to interfere with a proper performance of my duties if I get this job.

He got the job.

★

Customer: This clock I bought from you loses 15 minutes every hour.

Clerk: Didn't you see the "25% off" sign when you bought it?

★

Overheard (one shopper to another): My husband is rather fussy about what I wear. He doesn't like me in anything that costs over \$20!

★

Weary husband, just home from a hard day's work: "When do we eat, dear?"

Wife: "Sorry, John, but we'll have to go out for dinner. I couldn't fix anything because the electricity went off."

"Electricity?" the husband growled. "We have a gas stove."

"I know," his wife agreed, "but we have an electric can opener."

★

Argument: Two people trying to get the last word first.

PUZZLE ON CURRENT AFFAIRS

Fill in numbered rows according to descriptions given below. When all are correctly finished, heavy rectangle will spell name of a famous man.

1. Ngo Dinh _____, South Viet Nam's President.

2. In 1959, Charles Halleck, Indiana, replaced Joseph _____, Massachusetts, as GOP leader in the House.

3. When France ruled Viet Nam, Laos, and Cambodia, these lands were grouped under the name _____.

4. Dr. Jonas _____, developer of polio vaccine.

5. Wernher von _____, expert on rockets.

6. The _____, our first atom-powered submarine.

7. James _____, controversial head of Teamsters Union.

8. Sam _____, Speaker of the House.

9. Alben _____, Vice President (1949-53) under President Truman.



Last Week

HORIZONTAL: Stockholm. VERTICAL: 1. Helsinki; 2. Gustav; 3. Ford; 4. Morocco; 5. Dakota; 6. fishing; 7. Faeroe; 8. Oslo; 9. Germany.

Tension in Viet Nam

Southern Half of Divided Country May Be Next Target of Communists in Drive to Take Over Southeast Asia

Referring to the conflict in Laos, *The Washington Post* recently commented in an editorial: "Viet Nam appears to be the real communist objective, for which Laos is a funnel."

LAST MONTH, nearly every school in South Viet Nam was transformed for a day into a polling place.

Outside voting booths, good-natured crowds jostled—housewives clad in gaily colored, oriental gowns extending to the ankles; farmers in dark blouses and trousers; and Buddhist monks wearing traditional yellow robes. Through the throngs moved vendors, selling bananas, pieces of pineapple, and small portions of rice wrapped in palm leaves.



Ngo Dinh Diem

Everyone expected that President Ngo Dinh Diem would triumph handily over 2 relatively unknown candidates in the election. The big question was whether most people would be scared away from the polls. The communists had threatened to kill anyone who voted.

Election results were regarded as a rousing endorsement of President Diem and a setback for the communists. Though the Red threats did reduce the vote in some areas, about 75% of the people of South Viet Nam cast ballots (as compared to 62% of eligible voters in last fall's U. S. election). On 88% of the ballots, President Diem was the voter's choice.

Now, starting his second 5-year term, the 60-year-old leader is going to need every bit of this support in the months ahead. His little country appears to be the next goal of the com-

munist as they try to take over southeastern Asia.

Tropical land. The nation that Ngo Dinh Diem heads is the southern part of the divided country of Viet Nam, lying along the South China Sea. It is a green, tropical region with humid lowlands and wooded mountains.

For many years, Viet Nam was one of the 3 states of French Indochina. (The other 2 were Laos and Cambodia.) From 1946 to 1954, the region was torn with strife as communist-dominated rebels fought the French and their native allies. The rebel goal was to drive the French from Indochina.

Divided country. In 1954, the French—wary of the long struggle—agreed to withdraw. Laos, Cambodia, and Viet Nam became fully independent, but the latter state was divided along the 17th parallel. The communists occupied the northern part of the country, while the region to the south remained in the free world.

About the size of the state of Washington, South Viet Nam is approximately 10% larger than its communist neighbor. North Viet Nam has more people, though—about 16,000,000 as compared to 12,500,000 in the south.

In both parts of Viet Nam, most people are farmers who grow rice as their chief crop. Rubber and copra (coconut meat) are produced, and some cattle are raised. Fishing is an important activity.

Big task. When the French departed in 1954, there was widespread doubt that the new government of South Viet Nam would succeed. Many farm lands had been unused during the war years. Business was at a standstill. Armed bands under local "strong men" disputed the authority of the central government in the capital city of Saigon.

Moreover, nearly 1,000,000 refugees



SOUTH VIET NAM is another land endangered by communist pressure

poured into South Viet Nam from the north to escape communist control. They needed food and shelter.

Slowly but steadily Mr. Diem built up the authority of the central government, and most "outlaw" groups were brought under control. With U. S. help, the refugees were resettled.

In the following years, the government purchased land from the owners of big estates and sold it to many tenant farmers. A program was established which made it impossible for landlords to take more than their fair share of crops from their remaining tenants.

At the same time, considerable progress was made in establishing light industries. South Viet Nam now has plants for processing rice and rubber, as well as textile mills, shipyards, and a small chemical industry.

As a result of these gains, this small country is today getting along better in a financial way than almost any other land in that part of the world. Last year it was able to export 350,000

tons of rice. Per capita income has increased by 20% since 1956, and now stands at \$120. Though this figure is very low by western standards, it is, nonetheless, one of the highest yearly incomes in southeastern Asia.

U. S. assistance. We helped South Viet Nam resettle its refugees in 1954, and since 1957, U. S. economic assistance to that nation has averaged about \$170,000,000 a year.

With our help, Diem's government has built highways, bridges, and airfields, and has carried out health programs. We have helped to improve farming methods, set up schools, and train government officials. We have also given South Viet Nam substantial amounts of military aid.

About 2 years ago the U. S. program of assistance to that Asian country came under fire. In a series of newspaper articles, a reporter who had visited South Viet Nam charged that large sums of U. S. funds funneled to that nation could not be accounted for. He charged, too, that much of the military aid we had given was unsuited to a small, primitive country with a farming economy.

The U. S. Ambassador to South Viet Nam said the charges were "distorted" and "false." A Swiss group which undertook a study of the aid program in the Asian land said that it had achieved "tangible, worthy results."

The differing views were reflected in the findings of a group of U. S. congressmen who visited South Viet Nam. There was general agreement, though, that continued help was necessary if South Viet Nam was to remain free.

Red troublemakers. The communists regard South Viet Nam as a key land in their drive to get control of all southeast Asia. If they can secure control of Diem's country, they will have outflanked neutral Cambodia (which could probably no longer stay out of the communist camp), will have put further pressure on Laos, and will have endangered Thailand, a major ally of the west in this critical region.

Today, the Reds are stepping up their activities throughout South Viet Nam. They are acting through the Viet Cong (the abbreviation for Viet Namese communist guerrillas). These hit-and-run fighters are believed to number at least 9,000.

Most of the Viet Cong come from North Viet Nam. A few steal across the frontier at the 17th parallel, but



CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL of Saigon, capital of South Viet Nam, handles hundreds of patients—many of them brought daily to clinic for treatment. Some of the doctors in this hospital received their training in the United States.

most probably go from North Viet Nam into Laos, then travel south, and slip into South Viet Nam somewhere along the Laotian boundary. If the Reds succeed in getting control of all Laos, then this traffic will increase.

During the day, many of the guerrillas work quietly in the rice fields, but at night they join in illegal activity—burning bridges, destroying telephone lines, and murdering local officials. Often they kill at random as a means of terrorizing the population and keeping the people from cooperating with President Diem's government.

The latter is taking vigorous action to combat the Viet Cong. However, South Viet Nam's officials state frankly that their 150,000-man army and 50,000-man home guard are not strong enough to keep the communist outlaws from entering the country while, at the same time, fighting those already there.

Further assistance? Recently President Diem asked for more military help from the United States. Administration officials have promised we will expand our aid along all lines.

Many congressmen feel that we should give South Viet Nam vigorous support. Their views may be summarized as follows:

"If we don't stand up to the Reds somewhere, they will keep nibbling until we have nothing to defend but our own soil. We must hold firm in South Viet Nam, and not let the communists take it over.

"South Viet Nam presents a far more favorable opportunity for us than Laos did. Diem's government has close ties with ours, and is not inclined toward neutrality. Most of the people of South Viet Nam are vigorously anti-communist, and are willing to fight for their freedom. We can supply South Viet Nam easily by sea, and the terrain there is easier to defend than was Laos. With all these favorable factors, we should wholeheartedly help President Diem in his struggle against the Reds."

Among those who hold this view, there are several schools of opinion: (1) We should confine our aid solely to military assistance to South Viet Nam's army; (2) we should send our own troops, if necessary; (3) we should offer to fight alongside the South Viet Nam forces, but only if Thailand, Britain, and other allies of ours join us in this struggle.



MARINE of South Viet Nam forces

Though most members of Congress seem to feel that a strong stand of one kind or another should be taken to aid South Viet Nam, some are reluctant to have our country become further involved. They say:

"The experience of the United States in Korea and the French in Indochina shows that it is almost impossible for the western lands to defeat the communists in such a remote Asian area—so close to Red China and the Soviet Union and so far from the United States and the other western nations. If we become further involved there, Red China will almost certainly enter the conflict, and we may be in for another long, costly, and frustrating struggle like that in Korea."

—By HOWARD SWEET

Letters

Russia was first to put a man in orbit around the earth, yet many Americans still think that we are ahead in the space race. In my opinion, the U. S. public has been unjustly misinformed. I feel that we are seriously behind in the space contest and that every effort should be made to boost our own programs for reaching into the unknown worlds outside our own earth.

JIM ORTIZ,
San Diego, California

Why do Americans take their freedom so much for granted? Our forefathers settled this land and, through the years, the tradition grew that we should take care of it, preserve its resources, educate our youths, and enforce restrictions when necessary to maintain our position in the world. If this country is to keep its freedom, we must now review the lessons of the past and apply what we learn to the present.

JEANNE STEPHAN,
Traverse City, Michigan

Our American Problems Class has been discussing the role that the United States has played in the Cuban revolution and the claim of other nations that our prestige in the world is gradually waning.

We feel that the U. S. should stand on its own 2 feet and act like the mighty nation that it is—instead of giving in to everyone because we are afraid of criticism from other people.

One day our allies are for us and the next day they are against us. We feel that it is time for our allies to stand up and be counted for what they are.

U. S. prestige certainly has declined. We feel that it is time for a change. In the fight against communism, we must take a firm stand—even intervene in Cuba if necessary to restore freedom there.

FIFTH HOUR SENIOR AMERICAN
PROBLEMS CLASS,
Sparta, Wisconsin

The Cuban situation is very grave and most unfortunate for the U. S. Nevertheless, this problem must be solved solely by the Cuban people themselves. Our government has no right to meddle in the internal affairs of another country, and thereby risk a new world conflict. We should make sure that everybody keeps hands off the island country while the Cubans make their own decisions.

T. J. ROCKWELL,
Springfield, Massachusetts

Recently there has been a flood of nationalism in Africa and Asia. Algerians, Indonesians, and others are declaring that "white imperialism and colonialism" have kept their countries from attaining their true destiny as free nations. I would like to point out that, had there been no European colonial policy, the African and Asian natives might still be ignorant infidels without even a dream of the independence that is now theirs.

JOANN SCHMIDT,
Cincinnati, Ohio

I support President Kennedy's program for federal aid to improve the nation's housing. If the aid plan is carried out, I feel quite sure that we can reduce the number of slums that disgrace some of our big cities.

CAROL ANN GRIFFITHS,
Eureka, Kansas

News Quiz

Postwar U. S. Events

1. Taking population growth into account, did the percentage of crime increase or decline during the 1950's?
2. What changes have been made in the line-up of Cabinet-rank departments during the postwar period? What further change does President Kennedy seek?
3. Give the main provisions of the 2 Constitutional amendments adopted in this era.
4. Name the Republican and Democratic Presidential candidates in each election since World War II.
5. Cite 3 or more big developments concerning military weapons that came near the end of World War II or have occurred since.
6. Why has our gold supply declined in recent years?
7. Discuss the effects that various Soviet gains have had in connection with U. S. schools.
8. Name the most costly item and the largest source of revenue in the federal budget.
9. Tell why the average American's buying power hasn't risen as fast as his income in the postwar period.
10. Near what big city was our nation's first large commercial atomic-electric plant built?
11. Cite 2 major developments in the aviation industry since World War II.
12. Tell the main result of tremendous changes that have occurred in farming during comparatively recent times.
13. What recent event has led prominent governmental and business leaders to say that U. S. industries must put "their houses in order"?
14. What major event concerning race relations occurred in 1954?
15. Cite some important developments in the health field.
16. Briefly discuss Senator McCarthy's role in the postwar conflict over loyalty.

Discussion

1. What do you regard as the most important national event or development since World War II? Give reasons for your answer.
2. Do you feel that we have chalked up a reasonably good record in handling our problems here at home during this period? Why or why not?

Is Viet Nam Next?

1. How did Viet Nam become a divided nation?
2. What progress has South Viet Nam made under President Diem?
3. How has the United States helped that land?
4. Who are the members of the Viet Cong, and what are they doing today?
5. What are the differing views on whether the United States should give vigorous support to South Viet Nam in its fight against the communists?

Discussion

1. What steps do you think the free world can take to meet effectively the type of guerrilla warfare that the communists are using to bring new regions in various parts of the world under their control? Explain.
2. To what extent do you think the United States should help South Viet Nam in its struggle against the communists? Give reasons for your answer.

Miscellaneous

1. What action is the Justice Department taking with regard to Prince Edward, Virginia, schools?
2. What vital right has Castro permanently taken away from Cubans?
3. How can you distinguish between communism and socialism?
4. Why is May 20 a special day on our calendar of events?
5. What is the purpose of the East-West parley now being held in Geneva, Switzerland?



AID FROM CARE, the American relief agency, is helping to provide children of South Viet Nam with foods necessary for a healthful diet

Story of the Week

Reminder for Reds— Let the People Speak!

Cuba's Castro says that most of his countrymen approve of his leadership and of his cooperation with the Soviet and Chinese communists. Yet he defiantly proclaimed to the world a short time ago that there would never be elections in Cuba again.

Russia's Premier Khrushchev keeps telling the world that communism is "the wave of the future"—that people everywhere want it. Yet he, like Castro and other Reds, refuses to let citizens vote in free elections.

Why aren't the people of Russia, China, Hungary, Poland, Cuba, and other communist lands given the privilege of passing judgment on their government policies and officials? Is it not obvious that the Red leaders fear what the results would be?

When free elections were held in South Viet Nam not long ago, over 80% of the voters favored their pro-western government. Some 85% of the citizens in Red North Viet Nam, according to newsman Waverley Root,

A TEACHER WRITES:

"Your Civil War Chart is terrific. I've seen one priced at \$3.00 that is no better."

We highly appreciate comments such as this, and are most pleased that the chart has been so well received throughout the nation.

The price in clubs of 10 or more is 20 cents each; for smaller orders, the price is a quarter per chart.

Send orders to "Charts," 1733 K Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C.

are opposed to the Reds but can't do anything about it. He based his estimates on the reports of a reliable observer who stayed in the communist Asian land for some time.

If communism is wanted by the world's people, as Mr. Khrushchev says it is, why does he oppose free elections? The answer is that he apparently doesn't even believe his own propaganda. He and other Red leaders know that never have the majority of people in an entire nation voted in favor of communist candidates in free elections.

Geneva Meeting to Decide Laos' Future

Can Laos be saved from complete communist domination? What steps, short of war, must the western nations take to prevent the Southeast Asian land—and its neighbors—from falling into the Red camp?

These are some of the questions now being asked in Washington and other free world capitals as the future of Laos is being discussed at an East-West meeting in Geneva. We and our allies want an independent, neutral Laos. But the Reds seek a Laotian government in which they have a big voice. Hence, chances for an early agreement on the Southeast Asian land's future are not bright.

The communists are in a strong bargaining position over Laos because their recent offensive brought about half of the country under their control. They made big gains when they

continued their fight against government forces for a time after Russia had agreed to a British proposal for a Laotian cease-fire late in April.

Though the communist rebels finally honored the cease-fire agreement, there is no guarantee that they won't resume fighting when they feel it is to their advantage to do so. The 3-nation control commission (India, Cambodia, and Poland)—which is supposed to supervise the truce—may or may not be able to prevent such new outbreaks of fighting.

Communism, Socialism— There's a Difference

Premier Castro uses the term "socialist" when he refers to his Red-dominated country. The Soviets also use this word to describe their nation, calling it the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. But are these Red countries really "socialist"?

Actually, the communists have adopted the name "socialist" and twisted its meaning for their own ends just as they use "democracy" to describe their dictatorial system. The only similarity between genuine socialists and the Reds is that both favor government ownership of factories and other business enterprises.

But true socialists also favor free elections—they want the people to decide their future policies. Communists, on the other hand, use dictatorial methods and forcefully impose their will on the people. So it is inaccurate and a misrepresentation of facts for Khrushchev, Castro, and the other Red leaders to refer to their system as socialist or democratic. Instead, it is the same form of tyranny as Hitler and his Nazis imposed on their victims.

America Plans Ahead For Next Space Step

Buoyed up by the complete success of America's first manned space hop, our scientists are speeding ahead with the project for putting a man into orbit around the globe. Facts learned from Navy Commander Alan Shepard's history-making flight are being put to use in planning for the nation's next step into space. If all goes well, an American astronaut will circle the earth before the end of this year.

How does our recent space accom-



RUSSIAN Yuri Gagarin, first man to reach outer space and return safely



THE FIRST for U. S.—Astronaut Alan Shepard, Jr., Navy Commander



ANIMALS were first in space trials. Belka and Strelka, Soviet Union dogs, made successful flights—as did chimpanzee Ham of the United States.

plishment compare with Russia's feat of hurling a man into orbit some weeks ago? The Red space ship weighed 5 tons as compared with 1 ton for ours; and, of course, the Soviet ship circled the globe whereas ours went only a short distance. We expect to match the globe-circling feat this year, but it is not known when we can launch a space ship weighing as much as 5 tons.

Some Workers to Get Higher Minimum Wage

Over the next 2 years, the minimum wages paid to a number of workers will gradually be raised from the old level of \$1.00 to \$1.25 an hour. In addition, some 3,624,000 workers not previously covered by the federal minimum wage law will be included under its provisions.

That, in a nutshell, is the effect of the minimum wage law recently enacted by Congress. Though the lawmakers changed some features of the Administration measure, approval of the act was a major victory for the President. In the final vote, a substantial majority of legislators supported the President's bill even though the House had previously turned down a similar measure.

Americans Watch Case On Virginia Schools

The South and the entire nation will closely watch a test case involving the closing of schools in Prince Edward County, Virginia. The U. S. Justice Department is asking the courts to force the Virginia county to reopen its classrooms.

Prince Edward County closed its schools about 2 years ago rather than comply with a U. S. Supreme Court order requiring previously all-white classrooms to admit Negroes. Since that time, most white pupils in the area have received private instruction, paid for in part by local funds and in part by special state assistance to students who refuse to attend integrated schools. There are no organized classes for the Virginia county's Negro students.

Prince Edward County insists that the federal government has no right to force a locality to reopen schools closed by action of the people. The Justice Department contends that closing the schools violates the Supreme Court integration order, and that payments for private instruction are an "unlawful circumvention of this decree." Now the decision is up to the courts.

The Nation's Armed Forces on Display

Next Saturday, May 20, our country's Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps will be on display. There will be military parades in many cities, as well as air shows and exhibits of the latest weapons at numerous military bases across the country.

A big reason for the display of our armed forces is to give citizens a glimpse of defense programs that cost so much in taxes.

Main Articles in Next Week's Issue

Unless unforeseen events occur, the main articles next week will deal with (1) the Central Intelligence Agency; (2) a roundup of happenings on the world scene since the end of World War II.

For Quick Service

ORDER NOW FOR FALL

If you do so, you will receive your papers automatically—without inconvenience to you or possible delay during our rush period. As you know, spring orders can later be revised.

- Every teacher who subscribes to 15 or more of our publications will receive a completely up-to-date world chart with thousands of facts about 108 nations.
- Free bulletin-board materials will be supplied on a monthly basis.
- One of the early issues of the papers will have big maps with accompanying stories on each of the continents.
- There will be a greater variety of color charts, maps, graphs, and cartoons than ever before.
- Changes in our tests will make them more practical when given to a number of classes at different times.
- Contrasting features of democracy, communism, socialism, and capitalism will be clearly and vividly portrayed.
- Civic Leader series for teachers will discuss "Do's" and "Don't's" of current history instruction.
- Columns for students will deal with ethics, study tips, college plans, and digests of important books and magazine articles.

